

Serial No.09/840,441

Kindly amend the paragraph beginning at page 13,  
line 3, and continuing on to line 15, as follows:

On line 9, change "60" to --52--

On line 10, change "53'" to --53--.

Respectfully submitted,



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WWH:hk  
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In Figs. 1-5, the illustrated clip 10 is configured to interconnect primary and secondary bone zones 11 and 12, having opposed and spaced apart edges 11c and 12c. A cut or gap 13 is formed between the opposed edges of the primary and secondary bone zones. Diploe is shown at 15 between the top and bottom surfaces 11a and 11b of zone 11; and at 16 between the top and bottom surfaces 12a and 12b of zone 12. As also seen in Fig. 4, primary bone zone 11 may be defined by bone flap 17; and secondary bone zone 12 may be defined by skull 18 and its zone extents at 12 opposing zone 11. In the adult, cranial bone or skull averages 7mm in thickness, but varies between 3 and 12 mm.

Also provided is a retainer operatively connected with at least one of said tabs and projecting for retention to at least one of the bone zones at a retention level spaced from levels defined by the tabs. In the example, the retainer comprises a third tab 40 spaced from the first and second tabs 20 and 30, the tab 40 extending generally parallel to the second tab 30, and being integral with the first tab 20. Note that an upright leg or strut 41 is integral with and connected to ends of the horizontal tabs 20 and 40, and extends adjacent the edge 11a 11c of the bone zone 11. The third tab 40 has a multiplicity of barbs oriented to engage the primary bone zone to resist displacement of the third tab in said direction toward the secondary bone zone. Such barbs extend in two parallel rows 42 and 43, which are laterally spaced, and have upwardly turned sharp tips 44. The latter engage the underside 11b of the bone zone 11 to resist rightward displacement of tab 40, toward bone zone 12. See also intermediate barbs 48 and 49.



The clip 10 accordingly is configured to have two associated components, the first component including tab 20, extension 41 and tab 40, defining a generally Z-shape. The second component includes tab 30, arm 51 and projection 50 also forming a generally Z-shape. Further, the two components are configured to interfit at the hinge location ~~60~~ 52 where arm 51 extends downward through opening ~~53~~ 53. Barbs on the two components are adapted to engage one of the bone zones to resist displacement of the two components relatively toward the other bone zone, as shown. Fig. 7 shows the first component in blank formed condition, prior to bending at 70 and 71, into generally Z-shape.